

Message Text

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ACTION AF-02

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TO USINFO WASHDC IMMEDIATE

SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5371

INFO US MISSION USUN NEW YORK 1317

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 PRETORIA 3898

USIA FOR IOP/M/IAA

E.O. N/A

TAGS:

SUBJ: MEDIA REACTION: KISSINGER/VORSTER TALKS

KISSINGER PHILADELPHIA SPEECH AND PROSPECTS SECOND KISSINGER/
VORSTER MEETING GIVEN PROMINENT PLAY S.A. PRESS.

"PRETORIA NEWS" AUG 31 FRONT PAGE LEAD STORY FROM KEN OWEN IN
WASHINGTON HEADLINED "KISSINGER MAY VISIT S.A." SAID ZURICH
MEETING QUOTE MAY DEVELOP INTO FULL SCALE SHUTTLE
DIPLOMACY, INCLUDING VISITS TO S.A. AND STRING OF BLACK
AFRICAN COUNTRIES, ACCORDING TO OFFICIALS HERE. THIS
PROSPECT EMERGED AFTER STATE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN ROBERT
FUNSETH ANNOUNCED DR. KISSINGER WOULD MEET SENIOR
BRITISH AND AMERICAN OFFICIALS IN LONDON AFTER HIS TALKS
WITH VORSTER. HE WOULD DECIDE THEN WHETHER TO GO IMMEDIATELY
TO AFRICA TO VISIT THE " FRONT LINE" PRESIDENTS MACHEL, KAUNDA,
MABUTU AND NYERERE; BEHIND THE PROMISE OF AN AFRICAN VISIT
LIES THE THREAT THAT ANYBODY WHO TROWS UP UNREASONABLE OBSTACLES
MAY BE EXCLUDED FROM THE PROCESS OF NEGOTIATION AND, AT WORST,
DR; KISSINGER MAY GO HOME AND LEAVE THE PEOPLES OF AFRICA TO FIGHT
EACH OTHER. SO FAR, THE MOST VISIBLE CONCESSIONS- SUPPORT FOR
DR. KISSINGER'S PURSUIT FOR MAJORITY RULE IN RHODESIA AND
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ANNOUNCEMENT OF A DATE FOR INDEPENDENCE OF SWA- HAVE COME FROM

S.A. UNQUOTE.

PRETORIA AFRIKAANS NEWSPAPER " OGGENDBLAD" EDITORIALIZED AUG 31
QUOTE THE TWO LEADERS HAVE GOTTEN TO UNDERSTAND EACH OTHER'S
VIEWPOINTS FIRSTHAND. THE FACT THEY ARE MEETING AGAIN INDICATES
A DEGREE OF CONSENSUS ON BROAD POLICY ISSUES; THIS TIME IT IS
HOPE THE TALKS WILL BE MORE SPECIFIC UNQUOTE. PAPER SEES
RHODESIA AND SWA AS PRIMARY TOPICS FOR TALKS BUT REFERS ALSO TO
SA INTERNAL POLICY. QUOTE S.A.'S INTERNAL POLICY, IN LIGHT OF
PROGRESS MADE IN MOVING AWAY FROM DISCRIMINATION AND IN LIGHT OF
RECENT UNREST WILL ALSO SURELY BE DISCUSSED. UNQUOTE.

PRETORIA AFRIKAANS NEWSPAPER " HOOFTAD" EDITORIALIZED AUG 31
ZURICH MEETING QUOTE UNDOUBTEDLY ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT
DIPLOMATIC EVENTS AFFECTING SOUTHERN AFRICA. WE SEE IT AS
RECOGNITION BY THE WEST THAT SA PARTICIPATION CANNOT BE EXCLUDED
FROM ANY PEACE OFFENSIVE. A FORMIDABLE TASK RESTS ON MR. VORSTER'S
SHOULDERS. SA CANNOT REMAIN UNAFFECTED FROM THE CORE ISSUES, THE
PRIMARY ONE BEING THE EXPLOSIVE SITUATION AROUND RHODESIA.

OUR POLICY OF NON- INTERFERENCE IN THE DOMESTIC AFFAIRS OF OTHER
STATES DOES NOT MEAN THAT WE REMAIN ALOOF FROM EVENTS DIRECTLY
AFFECTING THE REPUBLIC'S INTERESTS UNQUOTE.

JOHANNESBURG ENGLISH NEWSPAPER " THE STAR" EDITORIALIZED AUG 31
QUOTE THE FACT THAT MR VORSTER AND DR KISSINGER HAVE FOUND NEED
FOR A SECOND MEETING IS IN ITSELF AN ENCOURAGING SIGN, INJECTING A
BADLY-NEEDED NOTE OF OPTIMISM AND HOPE INTO THE SOUTHERN AFRICAN
SCENE. NOT ONLY DOES IT SUGGEST A DEGREE OF PROGRESS, BUT IT
CONFIRMS THEIR DETERMINATION TO FIND NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENTS FOR
BOTH RHODESIA AND SWA. AMERICA BADLY WANTS THESE SETTLEMENTS
IN ORDER TO PREVENT POSSIBLE COMMUNIST DOMINATION OF STRATEGICALLY-
IMPORTANT SUB- CONTINENT. PRESIDENT FORD WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY LIKE"
TO ENTER THE COMING PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION IN THE US WITH THE
CLAIM THAT HIS ADMINISTRATION SOLVED TWO MOST VEXED PROBLEMS.
UNQUOTE.

JOHANNESBURG AFRIKAANS NEWSPAPER " DIE VADERLAND" EDITORIALIZED
AUG 31 QUOTE NEVER IN THE DIPLOMATIC HISTORY HAS THE NATION

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TAKEN PART IN SUCH IMPORTANT DISCUSSIONS AS THOSE SCHEDULED WITH
THE AMERICANS IN ZURICH. AFTER CONSULTING SOME OF THE MOST
IMPORTANT BLACK AFRICAN LEADERS THE US HAS SEEN FIT TO PRESS THE
INITIATIVE IN SEEKING SOLUTIONS FOR THE PROBLEMS OF SOUTHERN AFRICA.
ALTHOUGH SECRETARY KISSINGER'S TERM IS FAST TERMINATING, ZURICH
DECISIONS WILL LIKELY BE BINDING, EVEN IF MR. CARTER IS THE
NEXT PRESIDENT... ZURICH MAY IN TIME BE SEEN AS THE TURNING
POINT FOR SOUTHERN AFRICA. UNQUOTE.

JOHANNESBURG AFRIKAANS NEWSPAPER " BEELD" FRONT PAGE HEADLINE
SEPT 1 " SA'S TIME FOR CHANGE: KISSINGER SPELLS OUT US POLICY"
STORY REPORTED PHILADELPHIA SPEECH; PAPER EDITORIALIZED
ZURICH MEETING INDICATED QUOTE THE HIGH PRICE THE US AS THE MOST
IMPORTANT WESTERN NATION, PLACES ON A RHODESIAN SETTLEMENT. A
CERTAIN OPTIMISM IS DISCERNIBLE IN WESTERN CIRCLES. THE NATIONS
THAT COUNT CLEARLY SUPPORT DR. KISSINGER'S PLAN. THIS PLAN
MUST CONTAIN GUARANTEES FOR WHITE RHODESIANS IF IT IS TO BE
ACCEPTABLE TO THEM. BUT THE PLAN WILL ALSO NEED TO BE
ACCEPTABLE TO BRITAIN AND TO RHODESIA'S NEIGHBOUR STATES.
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SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1318
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AMCONSUL DURBAN
AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

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JOHANNESBURG AFRIKAANS NEWSPAPER " DIE TRANSVALER" FRONT PAGE
HEADLINE SEP 1" GUARANTEES AND DEMANTS FOR SE; KISSINGER SPELLS
OUT AFRICAN POLICY" STORY REPORTED PHILADELPHIA SPEECH.
EDITORIAL PAGE COMMENTARY BY SENIOR POLITICAL COLUMNIST OTTO
KRAUSE SAID QUOTE IN A VERY PRACTICAL SENSE HE US AND SA WILL
BE DEALING WITH EACH OTHER AS EQUALS; ADMITTEDLY THE US IS A
SUPER-POWER ITH OVERWHELMING POWER AT ITS DISPOSAL. BUT
AMERICA'S HANDS ARE TIED BY A NUMBER OF INTERNATIONAL AND
INTERNAL FACTORS. IN THE PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES THE US CANNOT
INTEVENE MILITARILY IN A SITUATION SUCH AS THAT OBTAINING IN
SOUTHERN AFRICA. WHAT IT CAN DO IS EXERT DEPLOMATIC PRESSURE,
SEEK NEW INITIATIVES AND POSSIBLY TAKE SOME ECONOMIC ACTION.

AGAINST THIS IS THE FACT SA IS THE REGIONAL POWER HERE, A NATION TO BE RECOCKONED WITH ECONOMICALLY AND MILITARILY, JOHN VORSTER CAN THEREFORE LOOK HENRY KISSINGER STRAIGHT IN THE EYE ACROSS THE CONFERENCE TABLE IN ZURICH UNQUOTE. COLUMNIST SEES ZURICH TALKS ON THREE LEVELS: 1) CURBING RUSSIAN INFLUENCE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA; 2) SETTLEMENTS IN SWA AND RHODESIA; 3) PROGRESS IN SA RACE RELATIONS.

JOHANNESBURG ENGLISH PAPER " RAND DAILY MAIL" FRONT PAGE HEADLINE SEP 1 "KISSINGER WANTS EQUALITY IN SA." STORY FROM RICHARD WALKER IN NEW YORK WAS REPORT OF PHILADELPHIA SPEECH: WALKER ALSO WROTE QUOTE IT IS NOW VIRTUALLY CERTAIN DR. KISSINGER WILL UNCLASSIFIED

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VISIT SA AFTER THE ZURICH TALKS- UNLESS THEY END IN TOTAL FAILURE. DR KISSINGER HAS NOW THREE WEEKS TO THE RESUMPTION OF THE SANCTIONS-DEMANTING SECURITY COUNCIL SHOWDOWN TO COME UP WITH SOME RESULTS UNQUOTE.

DURBAN ENGLISH NEWSPAPER " NATAL MERCURY" FRONT PAGE HEADLINE

SEPT 1 " DR KISSINGER STRIKES AT SA RACISM." STORY REPORTED PHILADELPHIA SPEECH.

PIETERMARITZBURG ENGLISH NEWSPAPER " NATAL WITNESS" FRONT PAGE HEADLINE SEPT 1 " DR KISSINGER WILL PRESS FOR EQUALITY IN SA". STORY REPORTED PHILADELPHIA SPEECH. PAPER EDITORIALIZED ZURICH MEETING AS QUOTE THE CULMINATION OF A CAREFULLY ORCHESTRATED PLAN WHICH REQUIRED TWO MAJOR CONCESSIONS BY SA- SUPPORT FOR MAJORITY RULE WITHIN TWO YEARS IN RHODESIA AND AN ANNOUNCEMENT ON INDEPENDENCE FOR SWA- AS WELL AS A POSITIVE REPORT FROM LAST WEEKS US MISSION TO BLACK AFRICA... DR KISSINGER IS ACUTELY AWARE OF THE FRAGILITY OF HIS STRATEGY FOR KEEPING THE RUSSIANS AT BAY AND IS BEING URGED BY THE FORD ADMINISTRATION TO MAKE A DIPLOMATIC BREAKTHROUGH IN RHODESIA BEFORE THE NOVEMBER ELECTION. THE SA PREMIER FOR HIS PART HAS ALREADY TAKEN SIGNIFICANT POLITICAL RISKS IN HIS EFFORT TO WIN US SUPPORT BUT IS LIKELY TO BALK AT US DEMANS THAT HE CUT OFF RHODESIA'S LIFELINE TO THE SEA UNQUOTE. EDITORIAL SPECULATES ON KISSINGER VISIT TO PRETORIA AND WINDHOEK AND URGES HE VISIT SALISBURY ALSO. QUOTE EVEN IF DR KISSINGER SUGGEEDS IN PURSUADING EVERYONE ELSE OF THE EFFICACY OF HIS PLAN FOR PROTECTING WHITE MINORITY RIGHTS IN A BLACM RULED RHODESIA, HE WILL STILL NEED TO CONVINCE A SKEPTICAL AND UNDERSTANDABLY HESITANT SMITH. THAT IS A TASK THE SECRETARY SHOULD NOT EXPECT MR VORSTER TO DO FOR HIM. HE SHOULD GRASP THE NETTLE AND GO TO SALISBURY HIMSELF. UNQUOTE.

CAPE TOWN ENGLISH NEWSPAPER " CAPE TIMES" FRONT PAGE HEADLINE SEPT 1." SISSINGER PLANS PRESSURE: APARTHEID US TARGET. STORY REPORTED PHILADELPHIA SPEECH. EDITORIAL SEEKS PROGRESS ON THODESIA AND SWA

BUT URGES SA DELEGATION DISCUSS SA INTERNAL POLICIES. QUOTE THERE
HAVE BEEN PRETTY VIGOROUS EFFORTS TO KEEP SA ITSELF OFF THE AGENDA
IN VORSTER/KISSINGER CONTACTS. FROM THE SA POINT OF VIEW THERE IS
A NATURAL RELUCTANCE TO HAVE INTERNAL POLICIES DISCUSSED.

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WHAT IS NEEDED IS NOT ONLY REASONABLE SETTLEMENT IN RHODESIA
AND SWA BUT A GENERAL SETTLEMENT OF SOUTHERN AFRICA ISSUES,
INCLUDING THE REPUBLIC- UNDERWRITTEN BY THE WEST, PROTECTED BY
THE WESTERN VETO, AND SUPPORTED BY BLACK AFRICAN NEIGHBOURS
UNQUOTE.

CAPE TOWN AFRIKAANS PAPER " DIE BURGER" FRONT PAGE HEADLINE
" DR KISSINGER SEES NEW HOPE". STORY REPORTED PHILADELPHIA
SPEECH. NO EDITORIAL COMMENT.

PHILADELPHIA SPEECH AND UPCOMING ZURICH MEETING ALSO REPORTED
COMPREHENSIVELY ON SABC RADIO AND TELEVISION.
HUGHES

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